

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 886**

**Representatives Troy, Brennan**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Upchurch, McNally**

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To enact section 5901.10 of the Revised Code to 1  
govern the practice of providing veterans claim 2  
assistance for compensation and to name this act 3  
the Veterans Empowerment Through Ethical 4  
Representation and Navigation Act 5  
(V.E.T.E.R.A.N. Benefits Protection Act). 6

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 5901.10 of the Revised Code be 7  
enacted to read as follows: 8

**Sec. 5901.10.** (A) As used in this section: 9

"Compensation" means any money, thing of value, or 10  
economic benefit conferred on, or received by, a person in 11  
return for services rendered, or to be rendered, by the person 12  
or another. 13

"Veterans benefits matter" means the preparation, 14  
presentation, or prosecution of any claim affecting any person 15  
who has filed or expressed an intent to file a claim for any 16  
benefit, program, service, commodity, function, status, or 17  
entitlement that is determined to pertain to veterans, their 18  
dependents, their survivors, or any other person eligible for 19

such benefits under the laws and regulations administered by the 20  
United States department of veterans affairs or by the state. 21

(B) No person shall do any of the following: 22

(1) Receive compensation for preparation, presentation, or 23  
prosecution of, or advising, consulting, or assisting an 24  
individual regarding any veterans benefits matter, except as 25  
permitted under federal law; 26

(2) Receive compensation for referring an individual to 27  
another person to advise or assist the individual with any 28  
veterans benefits matter; 29

(3) Provide a guarantee, either directly or by 30  
implication, that an individual is certain to receive specific 31  
veterans benefits or that an individual is certain to receive a 32  
specific level, percentage, or amount of veterans benefits; 33

(4) Render service for compensation before completing the 34  
fee agreement required under 38 C.F.R. 14.636, as appropriate, 35  
or receive excessive or unreasonable fees as compensation for 36  
preparation, presentation, or prosecution of, or advising, 37  
consulting, or assisting any individual with any veterans 38  
benefits matter. 39

(C) A person seeking to receive compensation for 40  
preparation, presentation, or prosecution of, or advising, 41  
consulting, or assisting an individual with, a veterans' 42  
benefits matter shall, before rendering any services, be 43  
accredited under 38 C.F.R. 14.629 and complete the fee agreement 44  
required under 38 C.F.R. 14.636. 45

(D) A violation of this section constitutes an unfair or 46  
deceptive act or practice in connection with a consumer 47  
transaction under Chapter 1345. of the Revised Code. 48

<b>Section 2.</b> This act shall be known as the Veterans	49
Empowerment Through Ethical Representation and Navigation Act	50
(V.E.T.E.R.A.N. Benefits Protection Act).	51